

Remarks

Drawings

Applicant submits herewith, a Replacement Sheet, for Figures 7, 8 & 9. Changes in the numerals shown in Figure 7 are,

The underline under numeral 61, was removed;

Sections shown as 9'-9 and 8'-8, are 9'-9" and 8'-8", to fit the specification;

Numerals 78 to 71, were changed to 70 to 73, respectively, to fit the specification..

Claims

Responsive to Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112

No Amendment is made to the claims in response to examiner's rejection under 35 U.S. C. 112. Examiner's reason for rejection is given in a question of the meaning of the claims 1 and 8, with reference to the specification. Examiner's question is,

Is the first means the adjusting strap and is the second reading the support straps?

Examiner has read claim 1 first means as the adjusting strap and second means as the support straps and claim 8 as the tension strap 25 and support straps 71, 73, as described in the specification. Because examiner has indicated by the above question, an understanding of claims 1 and 8, as originally submitted, the grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 are considered to have received a full a complete response and applicants request this ground of rejection be vacated.

In the event, applicants have not understood this ground of rejection as intended by examiner, a clarification is requested so applicants may make a fully responsive reply.

Response to Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102.

The Limited Disclosure of Miller

Miller is a replacement system for the conventional middle finger holes in a bowling ball. The object of the glove 20, straps 52 and wrist band 22, is to position the pins on the bowler's fingers to be placed into

corresponding holes 28 in the bowling ball. The straps 52 are attached to the wrist band 22 to provide support for the ball directly from the wrist.

The palm pad 50 purpose is to hold the straps 52 in a crossing relationship to prevent twisting of the hand and to provide an increased thickness to take up the gap between the bowler's palm and the bowling ball. The straps 52 are adjustable to hold the hand in a cup like position corresponding to the contour of the ball. A strap 51 and buckle 52 is provided to hold the palm pad in position.

Miller does not recognize or address the problem solved by applicants' claimed invention. A problem in using Miller is the gap that occurs between the palm, the fingers and the straps 52, when tension is put on the straps 52 which drives the straps into a straight line locus between the rivets 50 and the wrist band 22. The strap under tension is driven into a straight line locus and produces a gap between the finger and palm, when in the cupped position, and the straight line of the straps 52. This gap requires the bowler press the fingers and palm against the tensioned straps 52 to be able to press the fingers and palm through the gap and against the contour of the ball and interferes with the correct placement of the fingers and palm, flush against the contour of the ball. That Miller does not recognize this problem or the need for its correction is shown by the attachment of the plate 48 on which the pin 26 is mounted, insider or on the outside of the glove.

There is no disclosure or teaching in Miller of a means for applying a force transverse to the straps 52 to hold the straps in a curved locus substantially adjacent the Bowler's fingers and palm, as recited in the amended claims 1, 8 and 18.

Claim 1

Miller does not show the elements b and c in claim 1, recited as,

b. second means for applying a force against said first means for retaining said first means substantially against said finger, when said finger is in said adjusted curved position, or

third means for supporting said force against said first means, and

wherein said force against said first means is applied in a locus extending from the bowler's fingers to the bowler's wrist and substantially adjacent the bowler's fingers and palm.

Miller shows the straps to adjust the fingers in a curved position. However, when the straps are adjusted, forcing the fingers into a curved position, the locus of the strap when under tension, will be pulled away from the fingers and palm and into a straight line and which is a locus away from the fingers and palm. The wrist band cannot establish a force against the straps toward the fingers or palm, from its location on the wrist as shown in Miller.

The fingers 31 and the pad 50 are shown as the finger part of the glove and a gap filler for the gap formed between the bowler's palm and the ball. There is no disclosure or teaching of finger 31 or the palm 50 exerting the recited force against the first means in a locus from the fingers to wrist and substantially adjacent the fingers and palm. The purpose and construction of the fingers to hold the pins 26 in place and the pad 50 to hold the straps in a crossed position or to fill a gap, is limited and does not disclose the recited claim elements.

The third means as identified by examiner as the wrist band, does not and cannot meet the recited function of supporting the force of said second means against the first means which holds the first means substantially in a locus adjacent the bowler's finger and palm. The wrist band of Miller in the position shown cannot develop any force transverse against straps in the recited direction against fingers and palm.

In Miller, as stated above, tension on the straps drawing the fingers into a curved position, as examiner states, would draw the strap away from the fingers and palm.

The straps in Miller provide an adjustment to place tension on the glove fingers 31 to hold the pins 26 in position when the fingers are bent or curled to match the curve of the ball. However, the tension on the straps drives the straps into a straight line locus that leaves a gap between the straps and the palm and fingers. Miller does not show a means or structure, as recited, to direct a force against the tension strap and against the fingers and palm so the strap is substantially adjacent the fingers and palm as recited in the amended claims. Miller doesn't recognize the gap as a problem or show any means for controlling the gap.

Claims 2 -7.

Miller does not disclose or teach any second or third means as recited by applicant and for that reason does not disclose or teach any of the means plus function elements of claims 2 to 7.

Claim 8

Claim 8 is amended similarly to claim 1 and is patentable for the reasons given for claim 1.

Claim 8, amended, recites,

and wherein said at least one support strap is mounted transverse to said tension strap to develop

a force opposed to said tension strap and directed against said tension strap for retaining said tension strap substantially against said finger, when said finger is in said adjusted curved position and wherein said force against said tension strap is applied in a locus extending from the bowler's fingers to the bowler's wrist and substantially adjacent the bowler's fingers and palm.

Miller does not a support strap transverse to the tension strap for retaining the tension strap against the fingers or in a locus substantially adjacent the bowler's fingers and palm, for the reasons given for claim 1.

The straps in Miller provide an adjustment to place tension on the glove fingers 31 to hold the pins 26 in position when the fingers are bent or curled to match the curve of the ball. However, the tension on the straps drives the straps into a straight line locus that leaves a gap between the straps and the palm and fingers. Miller does not show a means or structure, as recited, to direct a force against the tension strap and against the fingers and palm so the strap is substantially adjacent the fingers and palm as recited in the amended claims. Miller doesn't recognize the gap as a problem or show any means for controlling the gap.

Claim 10 is cancelled.

Claims 9 and 11 to 17 are allowable as dependent from an allowable claim 8, currently amended.

Claim 18

Claim 18 currently amended, recites,

applying a force transverse to and against said tension strap and said bowler's middle finger and palm and displacing said tension strap in a locus opposed to said middle finger and substantially adjacent said middle finger and said palm.

(Underlining added).

The recitations in claim 18, as amended are not met by Miller. The structure and function of Miller is limited to holding the pins 26 in position relative to the receiving holes in the ball. The straps provide an adjustment to place tension on the glove fingers 31 to hold the pins 26 in position when the fingers are bent or curled to match the curve of the ball. However, the tension on the straps drives the straps into a straight line locus that leaves a gap between the straps and the palm and fingers. Miller does not show a means or structure to direct a force against the tension strap and against the fingers and palm so the strap is substantially adjacent the fingers and palm as recited in the amended claims. Miller doesn't recognize the gap as a problem or show any means for controlling the gap.

Miller doesn't teach or describe the elements recited in amended claim 1, 8, and dependent claim 4, 5, and 13-17,
are these claims as amended, are patentable.

Respectfully Submitted,



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